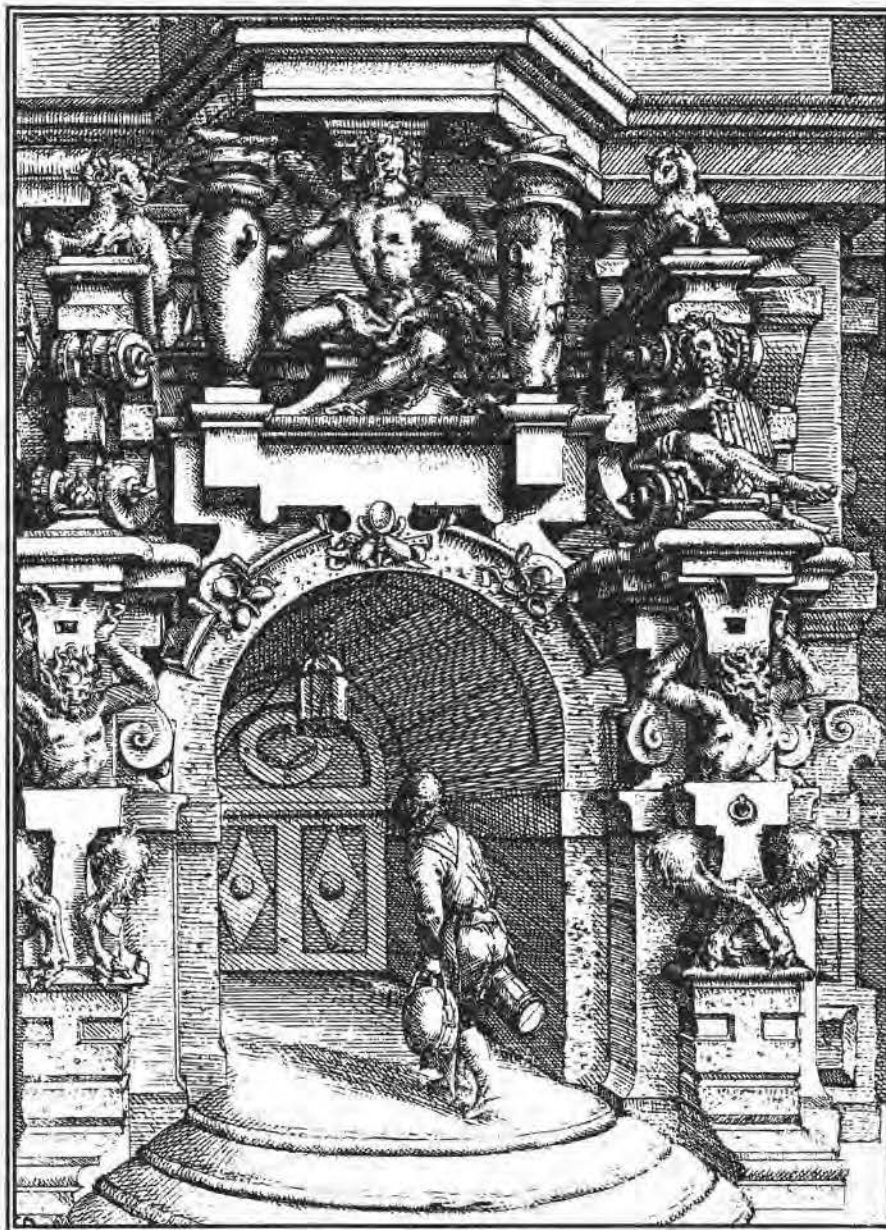


JOURNAL OF THE FORTEAN RESEARCH CENTER

EXPLORING UNEXPLAINED PHENOMENA

FALL 1994

VOLUME VI No. 1



Entering the Gates of Inquiry

FROM THE EDITOR

The word "change" isn't this year's exclusively political buzz word. The relevance of *change* to this journal is readily apparent when you compare the last issue, which dealt wholly with a woman's alien abduction, with this current issue, which touches on such wide-ranging topics as dowsing, PSI, burn circles, panspermia, big cat sightings, and UFO censorship. We're always looking for in-depth articles, as well as variety of subject matter for publication, and we're particularly happy to announce that this issue celebrates the debut of a regular column by Linda Moulton Howe, one of the world's foremost authorities on Fortean matters.

Howe is author of the critically acclaimed *An Alien Harvest*, a definitive volume on animal mutilation, and has been honored many times nationally for her documentary film work. She has received recognition for her investigation of the crop circle mystery, and two years ago, she received the international MUFON award for her contributions to the understanding of the complex alien life forms phenomena.

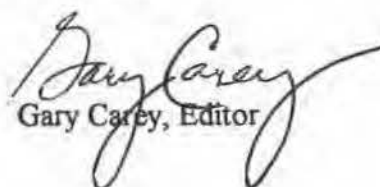
We welcome Linda, and we welcome new voices, as well—your voices. There are numerous fields of inquiry in addition to the frequently revisited subjects of aliens, UFOs, abductions, ghosts, and Bigfoot. Browse through the following topics; if you have a keen interest in one of them and you've done some reading, some thinking, and some writing, send your article to us and we'll consider it for future publication.

ESP	prophecy	astrology
spiritual healing	hauntings	astral travel
Project Blue Book	poltergeists	the face on Mars
clairvoyance	runes	Native American wisdom
astral travel	dreams	poltergeists
psychic readings	karma	MJ-12
channeling	parallel worlds	ancient astronauts
black helicopters	reincarnation	shamanism
crystals	exorcism	force fields
Wicca	Gulf Breeze	Atlantis
ancient astronauts	Men in Black	prophecy

Remember someone special with a year's subscription—and look forward to our next issue, featuring a compelling article about one man's search for a Fortean philosophy, written by the director of the FRC, Ray W. Boeche.

Happy holidays—and many thanks to all those members of the Fortean Research Center who recently renewed their memberships.

Sincerely,


Gary Carey, Editor

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Glimpses of Other Realities

Linda Moulton Howe

"There's one theory of the universe that I rather like. Suppose our planet is a zoo for extraterrestrial beings. They planted the seeds of evolution on earth hoping to create interesting, intelligent creatures. And they watch their experiment, interfering hardly at all. So that almost everything we do comes out according to the laws of nature. But every now and then they see something which doesn't look quite right. Like, this zoo is going to kill itself off if they let you do this or that. So they insert a finger and just change some little thing."

— William D. Hamilton, biologist
Oxford University

Hamilton is considered to be one of the most important evolutionary biologists of the twentieth century. He is author of the "kin selection" theory, a landmark in evolutionary thought which proposes that altruism among families has evolved because the genes that produce the trait reside not only in the animal that fights to save its young, but also in those young who are protected. Thus, the genes perpetuate themselves.

A mysterious presence among us leaves physical traces and eyewitness testimonies in its wake like summer dew settling on a yard. Unseen forces are leaving marks on animals, the earth and human psyches, while manipulating, traumatizing or inspiring. Yet, our human species, under the influence of rigid social, political and religious conditioning, rejects the accumulating physical evidence and human testimony which imply something very strange is interacting with the world, and most probably has been for centuries.

It is possible that all life on this planet was seeded by an advanced intelligence from this universe or another which is still monitoring and tending its garden. The idea of extraterrestrials, or other-

dimensionals, "planting" life here was first proposed by 1903 Nobel Prize laureate chemist Svante August Arrhenius. In his book *Worlds in the Making*, he introduced the concept of "panspermia," the seeding of life throughout the universe by spores of living cells that could grow on planets at habitable stages.

Seventy years later in 1973, another Nobel Prize laureate evolved Arrhenius's concept to "directed panspermia." Molecular biologist Dr. Francis Crick collaborated with Drs. James Watson and Maurice Wilkins to discover the structure of DNA, a double helix molecule that contains the genetic code for creating all earth life—whether a human being, a fish, an ant, a snake, or a plant. For that genetic breakthrough, the team received a Nobel Prize in 1962. Crick puzzled over why there was only one genetic code for terrestrial life if a primeval soup had spawned creatures, as many biologists believed. He co-authored an article ("Directed Panspermia," *Icarus International Journal of Solar System Studies*, Vol. 19, No. 3) with chemist Leslie Orgel in which they stated that the "uniformity of genetic code suggests that earth life might represent a clone derived from a single extraterrestrial organism . . . deliberately transmitted to earth by intelligent beings on another planet."

Continuing struggles to understand the mysterious origin of earth life were summarized in *Search for the Universal Ancestors*, prepared at NASA's Ames Research Center in 1985 by H. Hartman, MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts; J.G. Lawless, NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, California; and P. Morrison, MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts: "Since we define life in terms of its genetic properties, and since the only known system possessing these properties is the protein-nucleic acid system, the most easily defended position holds that the first living things were based on this system. However, the spontaneous origin of such a complex mechanism poses great conceptual difficulties."

The implications are that it is easier to comprehend the seeding of an already-developed genetic code on this planet than it is to conceptualize how our complex, replicating genetic process evolved from a primeval soup.

Fred Hoyle, the British astronomer who also speculated about extraterrestrial seeding of life on earth, was referenced in *Newsweek* on July 19, 1993, as having compared the difficulty of combining the ingredients of life from a primeval soup into something fully alive as "about as likely as assembling a Boeing 747 by sending a whirling tornado into a junkyard."

Directed panspermia and universal ancestors seemed also to be one of the subjects in an alleged briefing paper for the president of the United States that I was shown April 9, 1983, at the Air Force Office of Special Investigations inside Kirtland AFB, Albuquerque, New Mexico (Chapter 7, *An Alien Harvest—Further Evidence Linking Animal Mutilations and Human Abductions to Alien Life Forms* ©1989 by Linda Moulton Howe, LMH Productions). The paper discussed the United States government's retrieval of crashed alien disks and their non-human occupants since the 1940s. At least one alien being was supposed to have communicated about its civilization's long-term involvement with earth, including the "manipulation of DNA." One of the most provocative statements was: "All questions and mysteries about the evolution of *Homo sapiens* on this planet have been answered." The implication was that the alien civilization referenced in the briefing paper had something to do with human evolution.

After I wrote *An Alien Harvest*, detailing the Kirtland experience and other research, I received letters from people claiming firsthand knowledge of alien craft and other beings. My new book, *Glimpses of Other Realities*, has evolved from some of those letters and hundreds of other reports from a wide range of people who are struggling to understand their experiences with what each considers to be one or more intelligences beyond human.

Volume I concentrates on physical evidence

that can be picked up, held, and examined. I begin with the crop circle mystery. Physical imprints of geometric and non-geometric designs have been found in grasses and cereal crops worldwide. Affected plants from England, Canada, Australia, and the United States have been studied. One biophysicist has discovered biochemical and biophysical changes which he says cannot be hoaxed.

In the crop formations, the plants continue to grow in what appears to be unaffected soil. But since the 1960s, other circles have been found in association with the worldwide animal mutilation mystery. Dry, ceramic-hard circles in which grasses are dead have been found in pastures underneath or near mutilated animals. No one knows if both phenomena are produced by one intelligence or by several intelligences with different motives.

Motive is the most confusing part of the mysterious presence among us and our only insights so far have come from people who allege that non-human beings have taken them from cars, bedrooms,

***"Denying the alien presence . . . does not
alter the fact that
this planet is being used by
other life forms."***

or other common realities into a place beyond human understanding. This phenomenon has come to be known as the "UFO abduction syndrome." (*Unusual Personal Experiences, an Analysis of the Data from Three National Surveys*, conducted by the Roper Organization for the Bigelow Holding Corporation ©1992). In at least three cases, abductees have received information about animal mutilations, along with other conscious eyewitness reports.

Abductees are also sketching, drawing, and painting non-human creatures which haunt their memories and dreams. Different types of beings will be outlined in upcoming columns.

Volume II of *Glimpses of Other Realities*



will include highly strange human experiences ranging from the testimonies of scientists and other civilian professionals to military personnel. Confidential sources say the government has been monitoring an alien presence and its technology for decades using "black" funds outside the scrutiny of Congress. Out of that clandestine process, hidden under a national security cover, have emerged nervous military people who cautiously relate their own firsthand encounters with alien beings and craft. The secrecy, they say, is necessary to prevent public panic. But the military underground is frustrated. One man told me, "Denying the alien presence, imposing a strict policy of 'ignorance is bliss,' using ridicule and misinformation to enforce that policy, does not alter the fact that this planet is being used by other life forms."

The problem is, as one military source pointed out, "if we are dealing with a Control System that can manipulate our minds and create illusions with sophisticated technology, including holograms," we humans might never be able to discern the true nature of the manipulative intelligence/s.

Where is all this heading? Several abductees have opinions about what might be happening in the big picture based on their experiences of high strangeness. The similarities in their stories and drawings merit consideration, even if the content seems bizarre. The puzzling physical traces combined with military/intelligence reports and eyewitness and abduction accounts seem to be building toward a revolution in consciousness akin to Galileo's time, when the fifteenth-century Italian

***"Greater consciousness about
a different and more complex
universe is perhaps the next step
we all must take."***

scientist, the first person to use a telescope to study the skies and thus amass evidence that the earth revolved around the sun and was not the center of the universe so angered the Catholic Church that he spent the last eight years of his life under house arrest. We

are moving from the paradigm that we are alone in the universe to a new one in which we are not alone and something out there is interacting with us, our animals and our plant life, *forcing* glimpses of other realities upon us.

The intrusion of phenomena we don't understand disturbs people. Physicist and writer Fred Alan Wolf said to me, "Anything that forces itself upon us, that comes into crop fields, pastures, or bedrooms without asking permission *and receiving permission*—in my book, it's dark!" I don't think black or white is the answer. In the beginning of my

***"Perhaps we humans are like
bacteria on a petri dish."***

investigations in 1979 to 1980 about the environmental implications of worldwide, unexplained animal deaths, I was afraid that something terrible was at work. Fourteen years later, after exposure to other facets of the mystery, including the UFO abduction syndrome, I now wonder if the harvest of tissue and fluids from animals and humans might be used to sustain another life form at the edge of its own extinction. Or even to sustain humanity. Hints of those possible explanations have emerged from abductees.

Budd Hopkins, a pioneer in abduction research, has been suspicious about trusting alien communications. He shares Fred Alan Wolf's position that benevolent beings would not force themselves upon us. However, psychiatrist Dr. John Mack at Harvard University said that in the beginning of his abduction studies, he heard the terror of people who felt like victims of an unknown and unseen force beyond their control. As he continued his research, he learned that some people continued to grow beyond their fear and felt that the phenomenon's intent related to the evolution of the human species upward in the spiraling journey of souls. Greater consciousness about a different and more complex universe is perhaps the next step we all must take.

Whether extraterrestrial biological entities, other dimensionals, angelic beings, or all of these simultaneously are interacting with our planet, more

knowledge and less denial about what's happening could strengthen the human family. Crop formations, the human abduction syndrome, animal mutilations, increasing Marian apparitions, military and civilian encounters with alien craft or beings—all these phenomena are worldwide. They challenge us to confront other realities beyond the status quo and to reject the socially acceptable attitudes of ridicule and denial.

Throughout my first volume, I have tried to gather a large number of facts and eyewitness testimonies together for comparisons in a single text. I will also try to disseminate this data through this column in the *Journal*. So many local stories never reach the national and international media, and often content is compartmentalized too narrowly due to religious, political, and social biases. Compartmentalization makes it more difficult to see patterns common to different facets of these strange, sometimes inspiring, sometimes disturbing, events around us. We need to stop hiding from other realities. We don't need to run or get down on our knees.

In the end, humanity might find itself

learning about another intelligence that is facing environmental survival issues as we are on our own planet. It's also possible that another intelligence sees our environmental pollution, realizes that humans are on a path of self-destruction, and is taking steps on its own initiative to help us, even if we don't comprehend its actions or motives.

Perhaps we humans are like bacteria on a petri dish. We're becoming conscious that we're being studied. We have glimpses of the microscope, but no clear vision of the controlling intelligences behind it. As we become more aware of our watchers, inevitable questions about their goodness or evil emerge. My quest has been to understand the true intent of the mysterious forces around us. I offer this column to you to help explain the content in which I search and the context in which I hope my work will be read.

Glimpses of Other Realities, Vol I—Facts and Eyewitnesses—can be ordered from any bookstore or directly from Linda Howe Productions, P.O. Box 538, Huntington Valley, Pennsylvania, 19006. The cost is \$39.95, plus \$5.00 shipping and handling. □

Linda Moulton Howe grew up in Idaho and graduated from California's Stanford University with a master's degree in communication. She has devoted her film and television career to documentary and studio productions concerning science, medicine, and the environment. Howe has received local, national, and international awards, including three regional Emmys and a national Emmy nomination for her documentaries. Those films have included *Fire in the Water*, proposing hydrogen as an alternative energy source to fossil fuels; *A Radioactive Water*, investigating uranium contamination of public drinking water in Denver, Colorado; and *A Strange Harvest*, exploring the worldwide animal mutilation mystery that has haunted the U.S. and other countries since the late 1960s.

In 1989, Howe authored and published a hard-cover work entitled *An Alien Harvest* and served as Director of International Programming for *Earthbeat*, an environmental series broadcast on Turner's WTBS Superstation. Other television productions include the 1990 creation of the CNN *Reel News* series; a two-hour special, *Earth Mysteries: Alien Life Forms*, in association with WATL-Fox, Atlanta; and a documentary, *The Pressure of Fact*, concerning international survival efforts for UNICEF, New York.

In 1991, Howe contracted with Paramount Studios as supervising producer and original concept creator for an hour-special based on her *Earth Mysteries* program: *Sightings*.

In 1992, Howe was voted the international MUFON award, honoring her contributions to advancing understanding of the complex alien life form phenomena.



Big Cat Sightings in Nebraska

Tom Keith

Cryptozoology, according to *The American Heritage Dictionary* (Third Edition), is "the study of creatures, such as the Sasquatch, whose existence has not been substantiated." People have been seeing strange animals and monsters for centuries. They have seen everything from sea monsters to flying animals; from winged people to hairy, naked half-human/half-ape or bear-like creatures; from huge snakes and lizards to humongous insects. Compared to those kinds of critters, the sighting of something as mundane as a run-of-the-mill mountain lion or black panther doesn't seem to be shocking enough to cause alarm, unless, of course, you are the person who sees it.

Sterling, Nebraska, June-August 1994

"Its cry sounded like a squall, with kind of a hissing and spitting sound—it was pretty scary. When I saw it, it was in the city park on top of a 55-gallon drum they use as a garbage can. When I walked towards it, it jumped down and ran away."

That's how Sterling town marshal Ivan Heusman described his first encounter with a large puma-like cat that many people have reported seeing in and around that southeast Nebraska community since late June of this year.

"It was between half and three-fourths the size of a mountain lion," Heusman continued. "It was kind of slim, probably weighed 60 to 75 pounds and was about three feet tall at the shoulder. Without counting its tail, it was about four feet long and the tail was long and turned up at the end. It was kind of a brownish color, a light tan, and had a black spot in its ear, like a camouflage spot."

"I don't think it was an American cat. I got the impression it was more like a European cat of some type."

What Heusman was describing may have been a young mountain lion, which would be a

lightish-tan color and might have black spots on its ear. "I'm sure it wasn't a bobcat," Heusman said. "We have bobcats around here and I've seen them several times. I know what a bobcat looks like and this definitely was not a bobcat—and it had a long tail."

Whatever it was, this cat displayed some curious behavior. Far from being wild, Heusman and other witnesses said that it displayed no aggressive behavior and was not particularly afraid of people or other kinds of animals.

The town marshal said a woman who lives just north of Sterling reported that one afternoon she was out in her lawn and saw the cat sitting on the lawn some distance away, looking at her. She watched it for a few minutes and when it just continued to sit there in the grass, she tentatively approached it. The cat saw her coming and walked, not ran, from the yard.

Another rural Sterling resident reported she was driving into town and saw the cat sitting in the road. She had to stop her car and wait a few seconds for it to move to avoid hitting it.

A Sterling truck driver reported seeing the cat run across the road in front of his truck and into a milo field as he was driving home from a trip to town.

If it was a wild cat of some type, you would expect that there would be reports of pets or livestock disappearing, or even that people had found the carcasses of rabbits or deer that the cat had fed on. There are no such reports. The cat was seen around garbage cans in town and the sighting reports all describe the cat as being "slim" or "skinny."

"At first, people were afraid of it, mostly afraid for kids playing in the park where it had been seen. But it's been here a couple of months and there haven't been any problems, so people aren't too concerned any more. It acts so tame."

Springfield, Nebraska—1993-94

"I saw a big, shiny black cat that was about as big as a dog . . . about like a big Labrador retriever . . . probably in the 100-pound range. It moved real sleek and cautious. It walked along the edge of the field early one morning, then went down to the river bottom where there are piles of rocks. We thought it may have had a den there."

The Springfield businessman who reported seeing the black cat says, "There were about 30 people who saw it standing out in the field. I never got very close, probably about 300 yards away, but I did take some photos of it, which were shown on an Omaha television station."

Then there were two cats. "This year I saw the big cat and then a smaller one. It may have been a large male with a smaller female, but it seemed to me that the smaller one was a young one—it was quite a lot smaller. It makes more sense that the large cat was a female and the smaller one was her cub, or kitten, or whatever it would be called."

The man contacted officials at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and showed them the photographs he had taken. He was disappointed when the zoo official told him he had photographed a big farm cat, "I know it wasn't a farm cat. It was way too big for that."

A Game and Parks Commission conservation officer was notified of the sighting and walked through the field and along the river bottom where the den was suspected to be, and though he was unable to find tracks because of the heavy vegetation and rocks, he did say he could see where something had been moving around. There were some paths through the weeds where something had been walking.

This particular cat was first seen in the spring of the year and people continued to see it throughout the summer and fall. But when the harvest started, reports of sightings stopped. Then, this spring there were more rumors of sightings. One rumor was that someone had seen the cat by a river bridge south of Springfield. "There have been a lot of reports of people spotting something but not being sure what it was they saw. They just get a glimpse of something

and then it's gone."

There have been no reports of pets being attacked or killed, but there was one rumor that someone who owns a farm northwest of Springfield had lost some young sheep or calves in the spring. No one is certain on whose farm the losses occurred, or if the animals died of natural causes, which is common if they were killed by coyotes, a pack of dogs, or the cats. Whatever the case, if the rumors are correct and animals did die, they died only in the spring. There have been no reports of the carcasses of wild animals being found by hunters or people working farmland in the area at other times of the year.

"I'd like to see it, or them, again," the Springfield man said. "At first, some of the ladies in town were pretty afraid of it, but I've never heard of anybody seeing it in town. I've never heard of it causing any trouble."

Another Springfield businessman says he also saw the larger cat in the same field previously mentioned. "It was a very large cat, much bigger than a dog. It was walking through the field and then went down into the ditch where the creek sometimes runs. The creek is often dry. I'm pretty sure it has a den down there somewhere."

"Quite a few people around here have seen it. It's always in the early morning or later in the evening. This year I saw it through the binoculars and it had a smaller one with it. A conservation officer came out, but didn't seem to be too concerned about it."

"Some three or four years ago we heard that someone farther northwest of town had seen a big cat, but I never heard much about that one."

When people spot animals they don't normally see in their area, they usually call the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Assistant Director Wes Sheets says the commission receives several such reports each year and it is known that various species of wild animals pass through the state from time to time. "Everyone has heard the reports of elk and moose wandering around Nebraska and Kansas. In all probability, mountain lions may infrequently wander into Nebraska as well. A

mountain lion can cover a lot of acres. It roams a lot of square miles, even in its home range."

Sheets says there were confirmed reports of a mountain lion, or puma, as it is also known, living in the Wildcat Hills near Gering last fall. That cat fed on small dogs and cats before it was reportedly killed. One Gering resident reported losing a \$500 German shorthaired pointer pup to the cat.

"The mountain lion's natural prey is the mule deer, but it will take smaller animals if the opportunity presents itself," Sheets said.

"Mountain lions are normally not vicious, though they do occasionally cause problems with the human population. There has been a steady increase in the number of mountain lions in the Rocky Mountains. The lions may be expanding their range eastward due to increased density. If it has a choice, a mountain lion will stay away from people. People are a threat to it."

There is also a chance that the cats people spot are not wild cats at all. "Though wild cats do wander into new areas, there are also people who are fascinated by exotic animals and buy them for their own purposes. Sometimes the cats escape or are turned loose for some reason."

If a cat escapes, there is plenty of reason for the owner to keep quiet about his loss. It is illegal to keep a large cat (no, this does not include fat house cats) or a bear in captivity. The Nebraska law went into effect March 1, 1986, and though there was a grandfather clause that allowed those who owned animals that fell into that category at that time to keep those animals, it is no longer legally possible to acquire such an animal. In addition, there are federal statutes that prohibit possession of large cats and several other types of exotic animals. The penalties are stiff, ranging from \$25,000 to \$50,000 and ten years in prison for violation of the Endangered Species Act, if the animal fits into that category or the CITIES Act. It is unlikely someone illegally in possession of an exotic animal that escaped its enclosure would report the missing animal to authorities.

Perhaps that is the case with the cat apparently living in the Sterling area. Heusman says "Some kids were playing in the park and saw the big cat laying under a tree. They walked towards it and

when they got pretty close, it went up the tree, or tried to, because it would jump onto the trunk and slide back down. It couldn't climb. It acted like a big house cat that has been declawed," he said. "And, it doesn't seem to be particularly afraid of people. It acts as if it's pretty used to being around people."

Wildlife biologist Frank Andelt, of the Game and Parks Commission's Lincoln Office, says he fields eight to twelve reports of strange animal sightings each year. "Sometimes we get several reports from a particular area and hear unusual things, but evidence is hard to come up with, making the facts hard to pin down."

There are several reasons why it is so hard to confirm reports. Typically, incidents of this type are reported days or even weeks after the sighting occurs and often witnesses don't have very good information. Then, too, an animal can travel a long way between the time it is seen, the time the report is made, and the time officials get down to try to find it.

Andelt says the timing of reports is puzzling. "We get reports in spring, summer, and fall, but we don't often hear about these animals in the winter when it would seem they would be much easier to see, find and track. In the winter, much of the vegetation, which makes it difficult to see them in other seasons, is gone. There are large numbers of hunters in the field, snow makes for easy tracking, and the carcasses of animals that the cats would have fed on would be easier to locate. If these animals are really out there, where do they go in the winter?"

"Some of the reports are true, but some may be cases of someone seeing something and mis-identifying it." Andelt told of one biologist who was driving in central Nebraska at night and saw a huge black cat run across the road in front of his car. The biologist was certain he had seen a black panther until he watched it run up onto someone's porch and curl up by the door. It was actually a black dog.

On the other hand, several years ago, two other biologists drove to Stagecoach State Recreation Area, south of Hickman, in Lancaster County, to check out a report of huge cat tracks in the road leading into that area. The biologists found the tracks, which were very big, and even made plaster casts of them. They appear to have been the tracks of a large cat, but there were never any reports of anyone seeing

the animal that made them.

1993 Big Cat Sightings Reported to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission's Lincoln Office

February — A 40-pound, tan-colored cat, three- to four-feet long with a three-foot-long tail was reportedly seen southeast of Eagle, in Lancaster County.

May — On Highway 15, about three miles north of David City, in Butler County, a big cat larger than a bobcat ran across the road in front of a motorist who had to brake to avoid hitting it. The witness is sure the animal was not a dog.

June — Near Linwood, in Butler County, there were reports of four to seven calves missing. Andelt calls this a "rare incident."

June — A cat described as being 30 to 40 pounds with short gray hair and a long tail was seen on the road about one-half mile east of South Bend, in Lancaster County.

June — A large cat was seen in the Alliance area in Box Butte County.

July — A large cat that looked like a mountain lion ran through someone's backyard in the area south of Pioneers Park, near Lincoln, in Lancaster County.

September — A cat described as being "as big as a German shepherd" and having a long tail reportedly ran across the road in front of a vehicle in the Niobrara River Valley, near Kilgore, in Cherry County.

December — A big, tanish-gold colored cat with big paws and a long tail was reportedly seen near 14th and Raymond Road in Lancaster County.

In addition to reports of cat sightings, there are also occasional reports of big cats being killed by hunters or farmers and ranchers trying to protect their property. Most often, because publicity often results in negative reactions for various reasons, many of the dead animals are immediately buried or otherwise disposed of quietly.

Andelt says one of the few confirmed reports of a mountain lion being seen in Nebraska occurred in November of 1991. A Clay Center man killed a female mountain lion while hunting deer in the Pine Ridge. The landowner had told the hunter there had been reports of a lion in the area, felt it was a threat to his cattle and told the hunter to shoot it if he saw it. Biologists said this particular animal probably originated in Wyoming and moved into Nebraska as part of its normal movement.

So, what are people seeing? There isn't just one answer. The reports are most likely a combination of wild cats wandering through the state, escapees from private exotic animal owners, and other species of animals that are incorrectly identified as big cats. Another small percentage of reports may be the result of an over-active imagination and maybe a self-induced chemical reaction of some sort. Could there also be a *phantom cat* appearing periodically out there somewhere?

Whatever the cats are, the reports should be investigated. The Fortean Research Center is always interested in investigating reports of all types of unexplained phenomena and compiling information to share with our members. □

If you have had any type of unexplained experience or sighting, or hear of someone else who has, please forward the information and/or the results of your investigation to **Tom Keith, FRC**
Director of Investigations, Rt. 1, Box 87-A, Bennet, Nebraska, 68317 — (402) 782-2034.
There is an answering machine, so leave your name and number, and I'll get back to you.



Researcher Battles Military UFO Censorship

When CAUS (Citizens Against UFO Secrecy) official Larry W. Bryant began submitting UFO-related letters-to-the-editor to several military "commercial enterprise" newspapers in the national capital region, he fully expected that the letters would be published. After all, it was his ground-breaking efforts several years ago that freed up the advertising pages of those newspapers for his series of "UFO-coverup whistle-blower ads" aimed at ferreting out hidden official information about the Cosmic Watergate.

That victory—achieved by a "consent judgment" in Count No. 1 of the lawsuit *Bryant v.*

Weinberger, et al (Civil Action No. 86-1323-A in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia-Alexandria Division)—reinforced the access of such "message" advertisers to the ad pages of weekly newspapers like the *Pentagram*.

Government-published and government-owned, but printed and distributed under contract by a local commercial printing firm, the *Pentagram* professes to be an *unofficial* medium of communication between the Commander of the U.S. Army Military District of Washington and his assigned military and civilian personnel.

3518 Martha Custis Drive
Alexandria, VA 22302

August 20, 1992

Letters to the Editor
The Pentagram
Public Affairs Office
U.S. Army Military District of Washington
Fort Lesley J. McNair - Washington, D.C. 20319

Back in the fifties, the Army's counterintelligence directorate at the Pentagon operated what was called the "interplanetary phenomenon group." This apparently was a behind-the-scenes effort to collect, analyze and disseminate hard-core evidence gleaned from reports of "flying discs" that had crash-landed near Roswell, N.M., in July 1947.

In efforts to resolve the Roswell incident -- and to hold military officials fully accountable for their actions in it -- certain researchers are seeking the whereabouts of all members of the "interplanetary phenomenon group." Members' testimony during a pertinent congressional inquiry might be enough to fill in the blanks on this critical case in UFO history.

Pentagram readers possessing knowledge of the group's membership, activities, and records are urged to telephone me at (703) 931-3341.

Larry W. Bryant



"Ironically," says Bryant, "my UFO-related ads containing editorial views now can be printed without the previous interference from the MDW Public Affairs Office. But when I convert or expand such an ad to the format of a letter-to-the-editor, the P.A.O. insists he has a right to censor or otherwise reject it. My latest lawsuit seeks to end that censorship on the grounds of first-amendment, free-speech access to the *Pentagram's* 'designated public forum' called the Letters column. What's more, this arbitrary censorship serves to deny full freedom of press to me and to my fellow readers of the *Pentagram*."

The lawsuit, captioned *Larry W. Bryant v. Secretary of the Army*, includes as a defendant the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington,

D.C. "The center's newspaper, the *Stripe*, has refused to print my letter seeking whistleblower testimony and 'UFOresensic' evidence surrounding retrieval and autopsy of the occupants from two 'flying discs' that crash-landed near Roswell, New Mexico, in July 1947," Bryant says.

Accordingly, he has retained the services of Washington, D.C., attorney James H. Heller, who filed the suit June 23, 1993, as Civil Action No. 93-1289 in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

Bryant hopes the suit "will counter this prior-restraint censorship" as well as encourage current and former government officials to join the movement for greater freedom of UFO information/discussion. □



FORTEAN RESEARCH CENTER'S BBS CELEBRATES 1ST BIRTHDAY

I want to remind everyone that the Fortean Research Center's computer bulletin board (BBS) is alive and kicking after one year of being online. If you have access to a computer and a modem, you can call us 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at (402) 488-2587 1200-14,400 baud (8,N,1) for all the latest news and information on upcoming Fortean Research Center events.

You'll also be given full access to our file library of over 50 megabytes of reports, articles, and programs dealing with unexplained phenomena. Don't forget to browse through our message base, where we carry over 50 international conferences from such diverse networks as Paranet, Mufonet, and Fidonet. Topics range from dream interpretation, to UFOs, to conspiracies, to the occult. Exchange ideas and opinions with such noted experts as Dr. David Jacobs (*Secret Life*), Don Ecker (*UFO Magazine*), and Dr. Richard Boylan (*Close Extraterrestrial Encounters*).

The Fortean Research Center's Bulletin Board is free and open to the public—however, Fortean Research Center members should leave a note to the sysop for greater access. Don't be left in the dark. Give us a call to find out what's REALLY going on in the wild and wooly world of Fortean phenomena. Hope to see you there. -- Bob Dunn



Paranormal Is the Norm for PSI

The Parapsychological Studies Institute (PSI) was started in January 1993 to bring together people with a wide variety of interests in the field of parapsychology. Some of these interests include dowsing, spiritual and holistic healing, channeling, tarot card reading, the ghost phenomena, meditation, angels, and personal development through intuitive awareness, just to mention a few.

We hold regular monthly meetings at the Anderson library at Touzalin and Fremont, on the second Saturday of the month, when we have a featured speaker present a program on their particular field of interest. People who are interested in finding out about PSI are welcome to attend. The meeting starts around 1:15 and runs until approximately 3:45, and you need not join in order to come to meetings. However, one of the benefits in joining is receiving our newsletter, "The PSI Spirit." It is a monthly publication, featuring articles from our members on a wide variety of subjects. We also would like non-members to contribute, but please write for our guidelines before submitting an article. To receive the guidelines, or any information about PSI, write to PSI, P.O. Box 30158, Lincoln, NE 68503, or call Linda Keith at (402) 466-2226.

The following articles are personal experience by some of our members, and they give you an idea of what PSI is all about. We hope that you will enjoy them and that we will see you at one of our meetings.

The Guardian Angel with the Soft Southern Accent

✿ by Linda Keith

All the members of my immediate family have been touched by a guardian angel at one time or another. I remember my mother telling us about the time she lost her balance while carrying my brother upstairs—only to feel two hands on her back, keeping her from falling backward down the stairs. My father swore up and down that when he hit an icy patch on the highway, invisible hands were in control of the car to keep it on the road. My sister, Janice Hayes, wrote a beautiful article for the "Spirit" about receiving desperately needed financial help from a guardian angel while living in Florida. My life has certainly been touched in countless ways by my guardian angel, but this article isn't about me. It's about my brother and how a soft-spoken voice saved his life.

In 1941, my brother, Dick, was born with a congenital heart defect. At that time, heart surgery was very rarely performed on adults, much less on infants, so my parents were told that Dick would have to wait until he was in his teens before they would attempt to repair the defect and, even then, it wasn't

certain that the surgery would be a success.

When Dick was sixteen, he had the first of two open-heart surgeries. All went well, but several months later, it was discovered that, as the surgeons feared, the defect hadn't been totally repaired. They wanted to wait until he had regained his strength before trying again, so about a year later, Dick underwent his second open-heart operation.

The second surgery was quite an ordeal. It took the surgeons far longer than they anticipated because of all the scar tissue from the first surgery. Needless to say, this second surgery took a toll on Dick's strength.

After the surgery, it was touch and go, so a private nurse was needed to be with him around the clock.

Early one morning, after the nurse had attended to Dick's needs and he was sleeping comfortably, Dr. Grow, the heart surgeon, burst into Dick's room.

"What's wrong?" he demanded.

Startled, the nurse didn't know quite what to say because it was obvious that nothing was wrong.

"Why did you call me?" he asked.

"I didn't," she explained, "Dick is doing much better and is finally able to sleep."

"Well, someone called me and said to get down here fast because Dick Woelfle was in trouble."

"I don't know who would have called you or why because he's doing fine."

Confused, Dr. Grow asked the rest of the nursing staff on that floor if anyone had made a phone call concerning Dick. He explained that the voice on the phone had a soft southern accent. He was immediately told that none of the nurses on duty that night had made the call or had that kind of accent. Unable to figure out what had happened, he chalked it up to "just one of those things."

So that his trip to the hospital wouldn't have been a total waste of time, he decided to check Dick just to make sure that he was all right. Everything checked out fine, and Dr. Grow started to leave. Just as he reached the door, Dick's lungs collapsed.

Since the doctor was right there, he was able to administer emergency first aid. Dr. Grow told my parents later that because of Dick's weakened condition, he wouldn't have made it if there had been any delay in treatment. So, who called the doctor?

That's not quite all. At the same time that Dick's lungs collapsed, my parents woke up and felt an urgent need to get to the hospital as soon as possible. When they got there, Dick was stabilized and Dr. Grow told them what had happened, even about the mysterious phone call.

Dick left us a few years later, but not before he deeply touched several lives. We will always be thankful to the angel with the southern accent who knew Dick had to be with us a little while longer in order to make a difference in the lives he so deeply touched.

The Temple of the Energy

by Janice Hayes

Deep within the city of Brasilia, Brazil, shining white in the center of a plot of lush green grass, there is a church, a special church: the Temple of the Energy. I have been in Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, Westminster Abbey in London, the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., but never felt closer

to God than in this temple somewhere in the city of Brasilia, Brazil.

The Temple of the Energy is special for three reasons. First, it was built against the odds—by the people, for the people. When you understand the intrigue of Brazil's political and justice systems, the grinding poverty which the people struggle against, combined with the hold that Catholicism has on the country, you can begin to see why it was a major feat for such poor people to build their own temple.

Second, it is built not in a traditional ecclesiastical style, but in the shape of a pyramid, at the top of which rests a huge quartz crystal that was mined near Brasilia. And finally, it is special because the Energy within this structure is the most pure and powerful I have ever felt.

I looked forward with great anticipation when I heard that we were going to visit the temple, but as we approached, I was a bit disappointed. I expected it to be much larger. I soon discovered that looks were deceiving. The exterior was covered with opalescent white tiles, which glistened radiantly in the golden Brazilian sun. Rising along each face of the pyramid were vertical strips of glass, perhaps two feet in width, leading the eye from ground level to the apex and the huge quartz crystal at the top. These glass strips give the impression of being rivers, or conduits, drawing the energy of the crystal from heaven to earth.

As we drew closer, I realized the visible portion of the temple was like the tip of an iceberg—the structure was built much deeper into the earth than it rose into the sky. A long, wide concrete walkway led from ground level down inside the pyramid to the very heart of the structure. As I left the warmth of the afternoon sun and entered the shade of the walkway, I felt the energy rise to meet me, and I ceased talking with my companions. I wanted to feel every nuance, every ripple as the energy moved towards me, surrounding me, welcoming me.

Inside, it was quite cool and was illuminated only by the light that filtered in from the glass strips. Far from dim, this light looked ethereal and added to



the sense that I was in a special place, indeed. The floor of the pyramid was inlaid with a path of gray stones and the path of the white stones, both of which followed the contours of the pyramidal base, forming a double spiral. Worshippers may walk these spiral stones to the center. So I did.

Removing my shoes, I set out on the gray stones, step by step, spiraling closer and closer to the center, drawn by the energy which was building in intensity all around me. It was real, palpable. Tears began to flow from my eyes during this walk, not from emotion, but simply because I had to respond, somehow, to the beauty and grace in which I was immersed. Step by step, spiraling closer and closer, I ultimately stepped onto the small, golden disk which marks the exact center of the pyramid. Looking up, I saw I was directly beneath the magnificent crystal at the apex. It gleamed, catching the sun's rays.

The energy I had been sensing during my walk intensified. Here, I was bathed in it, felt it flow from high above, directly into my crown chakra, then spread throughout my body in waves. Even as I write these words, I can feel the energy once more. Every cell responded, and I felt life flow through me, awakening my entire being. Again, tears fell from my eyes. It seemed tears were the only way that my body could respond, the only way it could say 'thank you.' I felt my mind expand and my heart fill to overflowing. I wanted to stay there forever, but was aware that others, who had been walking the stones behind me, were patiently waiting their turn on the golden disk. No one spoke. We all understood. God was in that place.

The spiral walk away from the center, using the white stones, was just as energized as the walk inward. I started at my bare feet stepping from stone to stone, not wanting to make eye contact with anyone. This was my moment. I wanted to stay within it for as long as I possibly could. When I reached the end of the spiral, I helped myself to a glass of purified water, then stood before a little altar and said a prayer. I have no memory of that prayer, no memory of forming words or even thoughts. I was

filled and I stood there, giving it back and being filled again. Finally, when I was able to turn and walk back to my waiting companions, I was walking on air. My whole body was filled with light; my head was light, but not in a dizzying way. I felt as if I were ten feet tall and made of light and energy. I would never be the same again. Could never be the same again. I had come Home.

A Personal Experience . . . Visitation from an Animal Spirit

by Marilyn Keeney

The sighting takes place in Norfolk, Nebraska, about thirty years ago, when I was a teenager.

We were being kids, going for a ride and headed for the country roads to park. None of us had been drinking or taking drugs.

We were parked when suddenly, the clock in the car became quiet. It had been very loud, and this silence was obvious, very mysterious.

When it stopped ticking, we all stopped talking. Buzz turned from the front seat to look at me. Then he said, "What the hell?" He was looking out the back window, so I turned to look out the back window. I saw a bright light right on our trunk that came right into the car and through us. It illuminated the whole car.

As it passed all the way through the car and exited the front, it continued to run down to the bottom of the hill. At that point, it turned, went into the ditch, and leaped over the fence. It had the beautiful form of a deer running into the nearby pasture, zigzagging up the hillside. All four of us experienced the light. Some thought that the animal was a horse, but I believed it was a deer. The clock started ticking again.

This is an experience I will never forget. I felt lucky to have viewed an animal spirit in beautiful motion. I remembered it was traveling toward the East, which I consider a good omen. There is now a park in the place where this took place. What an honor for the Spirit. □



Dowsing

Joe. H. Smith

To me, dowsing is a reaction I get with an instrument. This instrument can be a pendulum, bobber, L-rod, or whatever instrument works best for the individual for a given problem. Looking for water is one of the most common uses for dowsing. When looking for underground streams of water, using L-rods, the rods will swing out or swing in and cross when water is located. This is the most basic form of dowsing and has been practiced for centuries, along with the Y-rod.

In World War II, a dowser was used to show the Navy where all of the U.S. and Japanese submarines were located on a world map. Using a pair of L-rods, marines located underground tunnels on a set-up course in California. Many marines were taught this method. An ex-marine friend of mine states that he carried an L-rod in one hand and his .45 in the other. Clearly, dowsing has taken many forms and has many different uses. Bermuda Island, for example, had no water wells until a dowser located two wells, using only a map.

My wife, Marta, and I have used dowsing for numerous reasons, both for ourselves and for other people. Our successes are not 100 percent by any means, but I will share with you some of the cases we have worked on.

A woman working at the PSI booth at the 1993 UFO conference in Lincoln, Nebraska, lost her mother's ring three months earlier. While talking to me, she asked if I could find it. I told her that I might be able to, but I could make no guarantees. I had her draw a rough floor plan of her house on a piece of notebook paper. Then, using map dowsing, I located the ring on a dresser in her bedroom. She went home and found the ring on the dresser.

A lady from Oregon called a year ago; she

had lost a pendulum that I had made for her. Over the phone, I told her that it was in a walk-in closet, in a purse. Around the first week of August of this year, she called again and told me that she couldn't find it, so I said that I would send her another one soon. Two or three days later, around 11 p.m., she called to say that she did find it in a closet, in her purse. This lady is also a psychic.

Another example of remote dowsing concerns a rancher from Wyoming who sent a map of his horse pasture, drawn on a sheet of plain paper; he wanted us to find a ring he lost seventeen years earlier. Marta and I both marked an "x" where we thought the ring would be. We then sent the map to Ray Jensen, who lives in Lincoln, and asked him to do remote dowsing. Martha's, Ray's, and my locations were all identical. Ray, however, went one step further. He told the rancher how many feet from the fence and how many feet to the corner post he would need to measure in order to locate the ring. The rancher went out with a metal detector, stepped off the necessary paces, and in thirty minutes, he found his ring.

Now, for a near miss! We had done some house clearing for a fellow in Idaho. He was happy with it and told us that his daughter had lost a class ring that her boyfriend had given her. She thought that it was somewhere in the house. They sent us a map of the rooms, and my wife and I came up with two possible locations—one, in a couch in the family room, and another in the bathroom. It turned out that they found a ring in the bathroom—but it was not the class ring. You can't win them all.

I have dowsed as many as eight successful oil and gas wells in a row. Then, for some reason, I've missed some! I have yet to figure it all out.

Vol. 6, No. 1



Dowsing is not down in black and white. I feel the information that we receive when we're dowsing comes from a universal source and only our own interpretation of those signals accounts for most of the hits and misses that we get. Sometimes one's own ego or the money involved interferes and causes a person to miscalculate.

A dowser needs to remain humble, a difficult task, at times.

Ray Jensen and I gave a short demonstration at the Treasure Hunters get-together in Fremont, Nebraska, this year. While I was talking, a fellow asked if he could issue a challenge to me. I told him that under the circumstances I would probably fail, but to go ahead. He asked me how many coins were in the parking lot in front of the building; it was approximately 200 feet by 800 feet. I drew a sketch on a piece of paper, found three coins, and I told him that one coin was twelve feet from the building and thirty feet from the west end. I did not try to locate the other two coins. Afterward, I thought no more about it.

Out in the lobby I was demonstrating map dowsing to seven or eight people when the fellow came up to the table, pitched a quarter on the map, and said, "You were right," and walked off.

Dowsing, as I've said, is hard to do with an audience because your ego gets in your way.

Ray Jensen had someone call him about a ring that had been apparently lost by accident along the highway. Ray told the person how far it was from a highline pole and how far off the road it was. He also told them that it was *not* lost by accident—that it was thrown out of a car during a lovers' quarrel—which proved to be true!

The more a person dowses, the more one receives pictures of thoughts in their minds. Once I saw a picture in my mind of a patrolman writing me a ticket. I had gone only a mile farther when a patrolman pulled me over. This is intuitive thinking—but it goes with dowsing.

Dowsing is about 99 percent in a person's mind. You can select what you want to dowse for—and shut out all the rest. An example would be an oil lease with three oil pay zones. You can

pinpoint the outline of each separate zone by merely asking for only, say, the Gatewood sand, or Penn sand, or Elenburg on this lease.

If you are looking for an active water line, it doesn't have to be metal. You will not pick up the old discarded lines of years ago nor the sewer line nor the telephone cables for that certain line. Mind-set is the key. You get what you ask for.

Noxious energy can be removed from a home by an experienced dowser, and we have also removed noxious energy by merely using a map. We have even dowsed successfully over the phone. There is so much to dowsing that I cannot begin to tell all about it; I don't even know all the uses. I've seen dowsers locate leaks in water lines or trouble spots on telephone cables. One can locate spirits, ghosts, or whatever you want to call them. Through dowsing, you can talk to your spirit guide. I have one whom I call Tom. At times, I feel others nearby, but I have a good feeling when Tom's around. He gives me a special signal when using the pendulum to let me know that he's there. I have not yet held a conversation with him, but I have not given up on the idea of doing so.

I'll tell you what Tom did for me on December 31, 1992. My mother was taken to a nursing home in Roswell, New Mexico. We had talked that day, and she had asked how long she had left to live. I told her maybe a couple of weeks. She said, "That's good, I'm tired and ready to go." I told her that my dad, who had been dead for more than twenty years was coming to get her. She said, "Good. I miss him and would like to see him again." That night, I contacted Tom and asked him to get in touch with my dad and tell him that Mom was ready to go. It took a little while for all this to take place, perhaps fifteen minutes. Suddenly, I heard this mental message: "He says that he doesn't need any kid telling him what to do [I'm sixty-one years old]. He's has already taken care of everything." That was the first time I got a message like that. I can't tell you how I got it, but at 6 a.m., on January 1, 1993, Mother passed away.

You can see there's no end to what dowsing can do. I have had many experiences in my life that have proven to me that dowsing really does work. □



Science and the Fortean

Don Joy

Members of the Fortean Research Center are generally under assault. We hear from the press, from relatives, from CSICOP. We're nuts, we're crazy, we're the lunatic fringe. Mostly though, we're *unscientific*, the worst crime of all. We trust feelings and never look at the **facts**. Recently I read Charles Fort's *The Book of the Damned*, our Bible, if you will. He had much to say about science and scientists, and much of it was not good. What Charles had to say in 1919 is just as true today.

As Forteans, we examine the *unknown*, ostensibly the same goal as scientists. Unfortunately, our unknown is a different ball game from theirs. It is this misunderstanding that causes the problem. For our benefit, we need to understand what scientists do and how they go about doing it. To that end, let's take a look at science and the scientific method and perhaps create a better understanding of science for the Fortean.

First and foremost, there is a common misconception about science shared by the public and most scientists. This misconception is that science seeks THE TRUTH. The capital letters are intentional because that is how the media repeats pronouncements on science. But this is not what scientists *do*. To quote Indiana Jones: "If you want truth, the philosophy class is down the hall." Indy goes on to say that he is a seeker of facts. Sorry, Dr. Jones, but this is not quite true either.

Science collects DATA—observations of a given subject. Now, Indy would say that FACTS are constructed from these observations, but that is not right. What is built from the data are MODELS, hypotheses on how a given system (astronomy, chemistry, archeology) actually works. Notice the distinction: the actual system itself is not explained in factual terms. A representation of the system is used to predict how the system behaves. If the model

is particularly good, it can be explained using mathematics and it receives the glorified moniker of HARD SCIENCE. Astronomy and physics are the most notable of these. Presumably, those like paleontology and archeology (where we have only educated guesses) are merely *soft* sciences. Political science and the like are not sciences at all—just smoke and mirrors.

The distinction between models and reality is very important and usually lost in the sermons of scientists. Models are **not** the real thing. Do you want to fly in a model airplane or in a real airplane? What models CAN do is predict some systems very accurately. Scientists and engineers then use that model to do very useful things: fly airplanes, create computers, go to the moon. But it is often forgotten that these are only models: the model is a substitution for the real world, not a replacement.

Science is riddled with this. Models become fact, then dogma. They are difficult, even impossible, to replace. In this century, look at the fight over the galaxy theory of the universe, or the Big Bang, or even nuclear fusion. Scientific history can be very illuminating on this issue.

And there are other issues about models and science. The Newtonian model of physics is a very handy model, still taught and stressed in universities around the planet. I can use it to put up weather satellites or fly to the moon, and this model was created three hundred years ago. But Newtonian physics is not the BEST model; it is simply the most CONVENIENT. Relativistic physics is more accurate but also more difficult to use. Why go through all the extra math when you don't have to? But if I need to calculate the orbit of Mercury, the more detailed model is used to account for the observed discrepancies. Mercury is big enough, fast enough, and deep enough in the gravity well that its



mass actually changes during the course of its orbit! Newton doesn't account for this. But do we eliminate all of the observed discrepancies with Einstein? No, just the largest of them.

And this is where science can fail.

Therefore, get back to the purpose of science, which is to collect **data**. Using the scientific method, models are built, but no model ever accounts for all of the observed data. By definition, unused observations are **bad** data points and are dropped from consideration. Sometimes, like in the cold fusion controversy, more **bad** points are dropped than **good** points are used.

When this happens, the model gets shaky. This doesn't mean a model built on this basis can't serve a function. It does mean that the utility of such a model is limited. The range of observational data included in the model can be so limited that it only predicts a particular kind of event. Sometimes, such models are used because they are the **only** model available. For instance, take weather prediction. This is a prime example for two reasons. First, it illustrates a marginally effective model. Second, it leads straight to how truly new science can be born.

Weather models were being built as early as the 1880s. The feeling was that IF we had enough observations and IF we had enough people with calculators, THEN weather could be predicted. The observational data came with weather satellites and robot weather stations. The calculators came with electronic computers. Guess what? We still can't predict the weather. We're generally doing good if we predict the temperatures and cloud cover for the next twenty-four hours. Anyone who has read or seen *Jurassic Park* knows why this is true. The answer is chaos.

The observation of weather led to the study of smaller and smaller systems in an attempt to get a handle on the problem. Yet, no matter how controlled the system, the same problem was found: it was still unpredictable under certain conditions. Those conditions are defined as **chaos**.

This realization has brought a major breakthrough in scientific understanding over the past ten years. It is an understanding of what science can and cannot do. No longer is it accepted that we can predict the movement of every air molecule and know the weather for the next hundred years.

This is interesting from another facet. These concepts were not discovered by scientists looking for them with multi-million dollar budgets. They were learned by scientists working in back rooms, outside the normal range of the lab and under a certain amount of scorn from their colleagues. **That** is a bad concept in this day and age. Fort reviled scientists for failing to get past their own self-imposed boundaries. These boundaries are immeasurably worse in 1993 than Fort could possibly have imagined.

Science is big business and big bucks. To go back to the moon (or Mars) is not cheap. Every scientist has his own pet project and is competing for funding with all other scientists. He is not going to get those funds if he's perceived as wacky or odd. Corporations and governments are not going to sink their money into something without a relatively good chance of return. Thus scientists become entrenched and hold to the hard line. Few will risk their jobs or position on the edges, even if that's where the true advances are made.

And this, finally, brings us back to the Fortean. We are that chaotic edge of science, the rim of the defined "real" world. Does that make us unscientific? I don't think so. It gives us the opportunity to be truly scientific instead of just confirming someone else's old theory.

Columbus was a gambler, not an explorer. The Wright brothers followed a dream, not a text book. Even Goddard and von Braun were scoffed at until they met with success. We are at the edge and, maybe, can learn things the scientists have blocked from themselves. At worst, we are open to new experiences that may end up sending us "back to the drawing board" for the way we look at our lives. □

Alfalfa Burn Circle

Lon Nansel

About 10 a.m., on Friday, July 1, 1994, I received a telephone call from Ray Boeche, Director of the Fortean Research Center. Ray told me that Scott Colborn had given him some information about a burn strip in a field near Holstein, Nebraska. Being the third generation on the information line, I telephoned the people who'd reported the incident to Scott. I had intended to drive out to that area, anyway, to investigate another research project that I'd been working on, and what I heard from the people who observed the burn circle, was enough for me to make an investment in a trip out there.

Chuck and his son, Dan (for the sake of anonymity, the names have been changed), operate a custom combining service out of Blue Hill, a nearby town, and while cutting alfalfa and windrowing the hay Thursday afternoon, June 30, Dan had noticed what he described as a twelve-foot circle in the alfalfa, "formed by a six-inch-wide burn strip." He said that it looked like a perfect circle from his vantage point. (For those of you who are familiar with combines, you'll know that a person is up higher than you would be on most semi-trucks.) Because of the impending rain, it was important that Chuck and Dan cut the crop of alfalfa and windrow the hay immediately.

Regretfully, Dan said that he "should have got some pictures"; he said that he did examine the leaves of the plants and that they appeared to have been burned. Chuck added, "You could poke your finger through the ground." Apparently the soil had been burned as well.

After taking directions and asking a few more questions, I told Dan that I would be on my way Friday, the following morning or afternoon. Unfortunately, it stormed heavily the next day and the rain continued through Friday night and through a good portion of Saturday. I had been warned about

the muddy roads that I'd encounter, so my journey had to be postponed until Monday, July 4.

When I and my companion, Sue Wallace, a well-known bio-magnetic researcher, arrived in the area, we backtracked down muddy roads until we found the tarped hay that we had been told to look for. Then, heading northeast, as we had been instructed to do, we saw a small red flag, about a quarter of a mile into the field. We got out and, separating a marginal distance between ourselves, Sue and I walked the entire west half of the quarter section—to no avail. We returned to the red flag and speculated that it had been placed there for our benefit, noticing on the way home that there had been one other puddle-jumper besides ourselves out there in the area.

Because it was July 4, we stopped in Seward and watched a spectacular fireworks display—reputedly, the state's largest. The following day, Tuesday, I called Dan, and he mentioned that he did, in fact, place the red flag out in the field so that we could find the area where he and his dad had seen the burn circle.

At this time, there is not enough information or evidence to support any conclusions. The amount of rain and humid, hot days on the Fourth of July weekend caused a rapid growth of the crop and apparently eradicated any evidence; a second trip out there yielded nothing.

Coincidentally, my continuing research in that area, nine miles north, has to do with a Pawnee star map that I've been working with, a relic of a tribe who called themselves the "awahu," or those who were left behind. It often happens that when I investigate an area, a development in my research, or an isolated occurrence will bring me back to the area for a different reason.

So far, there have been no further



developments of anomalous nature occurring west of Holstein, but I should perhaps mention a few other noteworthy specifics in this case, concerning this particular area. The immediate vicinity is a mixture of lower Sand Hills and irrigated farming, as well as dry land farming. The section directly east of the alfalfa field is undeveloped and, more than likely, used for grazing cattle. Approximately two miles east and southeast is Tower Hill; to the northeast is Sugarloaf Hill, both of which are very visible from

Nebraska Highway 74.

The head of the ditch where the purported burn circle was located is a tributary of the south branch of Sand Creek. I discussed this matter over the phone with Tom Keith, Director of Investigations of the Fortean Research Center, and he mentioned that there had been incidents of vandalism in the area, reported to him by a Kearney County sheriff, and that cattle had been killed in an area southwest of Hastings. □

Corn Crop Circles

Two incidents of corn crop circles have left owners of the land on which they appeared very puzzled. The August 19 edition of Rome, New York's *Daily Sentinel* reported that Clayton and Midge Brockway were stunned when they went back out to their corn field. Earlier, they had picked corn there and left around 9:30 a.m. to go to a picnic. Midge said that they returned around 7 p.m., followed by friends who called the Brockways' attention to the corn field, about 100 yards from their field.

In the middle of the field, rows of 10-foot-high corn lay squashed in counterclockwise layers, forming a neat 50-foot circle, which resembled the mysterious depressions left in fields in England.

"Nobody could believe it," said Mrs. Brockway, "I've never seen anything like it." Neighbors told the Brockways that there had been heavy winds around 2:30 p.m., but winds alone could not have left the impression since only a section of the field was affected.

Wondering if a tornado might have been responsible for the circle, tornado expert Jeff Waldstreicher was consulted; he said that a tornado is never stationary enough to make a round circle. A tornado would have made more of a spiral effect, he added, noting that "Mother Nature isn't usually that precise."

Waldstreicher could not imagine what else—weather-wise—could have caused the depression.

To save the downed corn from meadow mice and moles, Mrs. Brockway and a friend propped up the stalks tepee-fashion and tied them together. Mrs. Brockway said that the corn didn't appear to be diseased and that it certainly was edible. "It's gorgeous," she said.

Interestingly, a similar occurrence happened in July a year earlier in southern Herkimer County, New York, where a series of circles connected by lines lay in an oat field off Route 28. At that time, some people blamed the patterns on violent winds, but there was no determination of what had actually caused the depressions.

A similar riddle also occurred this past August in a corn field outside Garthroe, England. The circle was on land belonging to the Martinsons of Corner Farm and was about 25 yards away from the nearest road, close to the Dutch-style barn.

The phenomenon created a great amount of interest from passersby and speculation mounted every time someone else stopped to view the circle. Some people said that crop circles were created by whirlwinds, but others were firm in their belief that these circles were created by some sort of supernatural force—such as lay-lines or by UFOs, when they land on the earth. □

BOOKS

Ray Boeche

STRANGE & UNEXPLAINED MYSTERIES OF THE 20TH CENTURY

Jenny Randles
Sterling Publishing Co., NY, NY
\$14.95 paperback
(\$19.95 Canada)

One of the first paranormal researchers strikes again with this excellent compendium of explained events. Considered by many, and rightfully so, as the U.K.'s leading expert on UFOs and other paranormal events, Jenny Randles is insightful, an extremely reliable and credible researcher, and always an interesting read.

The first "close encounter of the third kind" (alien contact) was reported back in 1901, long before UFOs could be explained away as airplanes, helicopters, or NASA experiments. 1922 saw the discovery of King Tutankhamun's tomb and the subsequent unleashing of a curse which was to have deadly repercussions for years to come.

On July 9, 1946, a series of "ghost rockets" was seen hurtling through the skies. The 1960s and '70s saw a rash of unexplainable animal mutilations which continue to be reported into the '90s.

Evidence of time travel, spontaneous human combustion, reincarnation, "spacenappings," ESP and precognition, and ghostly visitors are chronicled, and 100 photographs—many in color—offer astounding testimony, offering as many questions as answers. The Bermuda triangle, the Loch Ness monster, Bigfoot, crop circles, the Amityville haunting, the alien abduction case of Betty and Barney Hill, and other phenomena are all engagingly described, at times with terrifying clarity.

The facts and stories recounted in Jenny

Randles' new book will intrigue and amaze everyone who reads them. With such hard-to-ignore documentation of what's occurred this century, one can only wonder what the 21st century will offer—solutions to these happenings? Or more strange and unexplained mysteries?

UFO QUEST: In Search of the Mystery Machines

Alan Watts
Blandford Publishing Company
\$9.95 (paperback)
\$13.95 Canada)

Many people have seen UFOs. Photographs have been taken, mysterious pieces of machinery found, strange physical phenomena reported, yet there are still those who doubt their existence, asking questions about the hows and whys of alien visits. Now their questions are answered in a detailed exploration that views possible methods of propulsion and navigation, and that examines the effects of UFOs on cars, planes, radar, and other earthly elements of UFO sightings and encounters—all carefully explained and supported with universally accepted scientific theories and evidence. Follow the accounts of those who've seen UFOs, and then find out the amazing explanations of every facet of the experiences, from the shape of the crafts to their strange lights and noises, as well as their flight patterns. Astounding photographs demonstrate startling, explainable coincidences and the scientific principles behind UFO behaviors and effects. With scientific discoveries being made every day, it won't be long before "unidentified flying objects" become clearly identifiable. □



FORTEAN NEWS

Ancient Mysteries in Iowa's Effigy Mounds

Chicago Tribune

July 17, 1994

by Don Davenport

Scattered along the high, wooded Mississippi River bluffs just north of Marquette are ages-old earthworks left by peoples who roamed the river valley thousands of years ago. Nearly 200 of these ancient mounds have been preserved at Effigy Mounds National Monument, a 1,500-acre National Park Service reserve established in 1949.

Most of the mounds in this northeastern Iowa area are conical or linear in shape. The monument takes its name from the area's 29 effigy mounds—huge earthworks fashioned into images of birds and animals, primarily bears and eagles.

The effigies offer only a few tantalizing clues about their origins and the people who built them. Some were used for burial, but others contain no human remains or artifacts. Were they offerings to the spirits of the animals these people hunted? Or were they totems of the people who built the mounds? Their meaning is hidden in the dark passage of time.

The oldest-known mound at Effigy Mounds belongs to the Red Ochre Culture (people who lined their burial mounds with red ochre, or iron oxide) and was built some 500 years before the birth of Christ. The effigies stand among mounds built hundreds, even thousands of years earlier.

Before viewing the mounds, you should stop at the Visitor Center, where a short film and museum exhibits explain the prehistory, history, and natural history of Effigy Mounds. Pottery, spear points, copper, and bone artifacts and other exhibits illustrate the cultural evolution of the people who once lived here.

Many cultures were here before the effigy-mound builders arrived. In the earliest times, about 10,000 B.C., small groups of Paleo-Indians roamed these bluffs, hunting mammoth and other large game.

From about 100 B.C. to A.D. 600, the Hopewell Culture exerted a major influence on the people who lived at Effigy Mounds. Centered in southern Ohio, this rich and powerful culture built large conical mounds and conducted elaborate burials. Hopewellian mounds found at Effigy Mounds included copper, stone, and bone artifacts with the burials. Multiple burials in a single mound were common.

The effigy-mound builders occupied the region from about A.D. 600 until almost historic times. They ranged across the upper Midwest for eight centuries, creating tens of thousands of mounds in the shapes of birds and animals. Their earthen images are most numerous in southern Wisconsin and are found in adjacent areas of Iowa, Illinois, and Minnesota. A few effigies have been found in Ohio, but they appear nowhere else.

Some of the effigies are massive. Great Bear Mound measures 137 feet long by 40 feet across and stands nearly 4 feet high. Of about a dozen bear effigies found within the monument, only Great Bear Mound shows his right side—all the others show their left—and all were constructed with their feet pointing toward the Mississippi River. Yet bear effigies only a few miles away in Wisconsin lie with the feet pointing away from the river. Archaeologists speculate the family or clan groups in the culture identified with certain animals and built mounds in their shapes.

Like those cultures that preceded them, the effigy-mound builders were wandering hunters and food gatherers. They had no permanent villages and left few artifacts. After 800 years of existence, the effigy-mound builders disappeared around A.D. 1400. There are no clues about what happened to them.

After the demise of the effigy-mound builders, Indians of the Oneota Culture inhabited the region. These people placed a strong emphasis on agriculture and on life in larger villages. With the advent of the fur-trading era in the mid-seventeenth century, Indian occupation of the land now with

Effigy Mounds National Monument came to an end.

To view the earthworks at Effigy Mounds, it's necessary to climb a steep but well-maintained trail to the top of 300-foot bluffs. Trailside markers point out wild flowers, trees, and plants along the route, indicating those used by Native Americans for medicine, food, and other purposes. The varied plant, bird, and animal populations at Effigy Mounds represent a biological community not found elsewhere in the U.S. National Park System.

Once at the top of the bluff, a one-hour walk on the self-guiding Fire Point Trail leads to conical, linear, and Hopwellian Mounds, and Little Bear Effigy Mound. Great Bear Mound is an easy few minutes' walk from Little Bear. It's worth the time to see the huge effigy. Other mounds and scenic overlooks are located along the trail, which leads to Hanging Rock overlook, which is about a mile north of Great Bear Mound.

Placards and markers point out important characteristics of the various mound groups. At Fire Point, where turkey vultures soar overhead and the broad Mississippi slides by 300 feet below, the last in a series of conical mounds leading to the point is a large Hopwellian Mound.

Officially designated as Mound No. 33, it was built a thousand years before Columbus set sail for the New World. A placard with artwork details how the mound was constructed, how burials were conducted, and the excavation process, providing an intriguing glimpse of the people who lived here at a time when Roman Emperors believed that they ruled the entire Western World.

Effigy Mounds National Monument is 3 miles north of Marquette, Iowa, on State Highway 76, across the river from Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, and about 250 miles northwest of Chicago. The Visitor Center is open daily (except Christmas Day) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (7 p.m. from Memorial Day to Labor Day). Guided mound tours are conducted at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 and 3 p.m. daily from Memorial Day to Labor Day, or you may tour the mounds on your own.

Admission is \$2 for adults (ages 16 and under free) and a ticket is valid for one week. No camping or picnicking is allowed in the monument.

For further information, contact:

Superintendent, Effigy Mounds National Monument,
Route 1, Box 25A, Harper's Ferry, Iowa 52146; 319-
873-3491.

RESIDENTS OF TAOS STILL HEARING HUM

**Roswell, NM *Daily Record*
August 4, 1994**

ALBUQUERQUE (AP) Eleven percent of Taos-area residents who responded to a University of New Mexico survey say that they still hear the Taos hum, a researcher said.

"Statistically, that's a large percentage," said Jim Kelly, an ear specialist with the UNM School of Medicine.

The surveys, part of a research project on the mysterious sound, went to 8,000 residents of Taos and neighboring communities this past spring.

Kelly said that 1,440, or 18 percent, of the surveys were returned, and 161 respondents said that they "perceive what we classify as the hum."

They are primarily adults between the ages of 30 and 59, evenly divided between men and women, and most live in Taos or Ranchos de Taos.

Most hear it frequently, which Kelly said means that a signal, either internal or external, is probably always present but only rises above background noise when it's quiet.

Hearers describe the hum as sounding like an idling diesel engine and say that it disturbs their sleep. Some hearers also complain of pressure on the ears, nose bleeds, dizziness, and headaches.

The vast majority have heard it for at least six months, many for more than two years," Kelly said in a statement issued by UNM. "When it starts, it doesn't go away."

The mysterious hum was first reported around Taos in 1991, but Kelly said that Albuquerque residents have complained of a hum since they first



started hearing it around 1989. Hum-hearers from other states have contacted the researchers.

A team of scientists and engineers last year set up instruments in Taos to try to identify the noise but had no success. Kelly then decided to try to figure out why some people hear it and some don't—and whether the phenomenon is a disorder of low-frequency hearing.



CATTLE MUTILATIONS ON RISE IN NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque Journal

August 14, 1994 by Richard Benke

EAGLE NEST, N.M. Reports of mutilated cattle, suggestive of cases around the nation 20 years ago, are on the rise again in northern New Mexico.

From April 1993 until August 1994, nine ranchers reported 27 cattle mutilated, the largest number near Eagle Nest, ranchers and livestock inspectors say.

They repeat stories first heard in the early 1970s:

No animal tracks are found near the carcasses, no blood. Genitals have been removed, tongues sometimes cut off at their roots, anuses often cored out, one eye usually gone. Sometimes ears are missing. Incisions seem heat-cauterized.

Some people speculate that aliens may be responsible. Others blame poachers or natural predators.

State livestock inspector Jerry Valerio rules out coyotes, bears, birds, dogs, and mountain lions.

"I'm not saying anything about UFOs," Valerio says. "I'm saying I don't know. But, by golly, if I could get a clue that I could go on, I will find out, even if it takes me a long time."

The Associated Press reported in 1985 that deputy sheriffs in Arkansas and Texas staked out carcasses and saw birds carve wounds similar to those blamed on mutilators.

But Valerio says he and ranchers have watched mutilated carcasses and found that predators

wouldn't go near them.

State Livestock Bureau director John Wortman of Albuquerque says he's aware of the resurgence of mutilation reports.

"If there's somebody up there that's butchering livestock, that's who we want to go after," Wortman says.

Eagle Nest rancher Eli Hronich has suffered the lion's share—11 cattle mutilated so precisely, he and Valerio insist, that it could not have been the work of predators.

"Some people are scared and say it's predators but it is not predators," Valerio says.

Hronich, who runs 2,500 head here, says he's seen hundreds of cows dead on the range in 25 years of ranching and "when you see a mutilation, you know what it is." The most recent death was July 24.

Reports include one other mutilation in Eagle Nest, eight in the Jemez Mountains, two in Questa, one in Taos, one in El Prado, one in Arroyo Seco, and two in an area that one livestock inspector wants left unidentified, pending completion of his investigation.

Rancher Kay Moore says she found a mutilated yearling steer in a pasture overlooking Eagle Nest Lake in August 1993.

"I have seen cattle killed by bear, and I've seen wildlife like deer killed by a mountain lion and coyotes. And they don't just leave them intact after they ate the anus out. They usually devour them," she says. "I think this is definitely human."

Motivation?

"I have no idea. I think it's something nobody will ever know. I'd be amazed if we did find out."

Hronich says: "I think somebody does know, somewhere. That's what bothers me. . . . It's somebody that's got some money and equipment. It's a sophisticated deal."

Too high-tech, too clean, he says, for cultists.

UFOs?

"I wouldn't rule 'em out, wouldn't rule 'em in," he says.

Valerio, whose Taos-based area includes Eagle Nest, says many ranchers have clammed up because previous reports went unheeded. □

THE FORTEAN RESEARCH CENTER

P.O. Box 94627
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68509

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✓ "Exploring Unexplained Phenomena," a weekly radio program heard in Lincoln, Nebraska, on KZUM 89.3 and Cable Channel 10, Saturday, 10-11:30 a.m. Since its inception in October 1984, host Scott Colborn has interviewed nationally and internationally known authors and researchers in the various fields of unexplained phenomena. Your membership is helping support this important radio program, unique to the Midwest! You may purchase audio tapes of the show for \$5, plus \$2 shipping and handling (\$7.00). Please allow 3-5 weeks. Specify areas(s) of interest or names of guests, and we'll duplicate the recorded program for you.

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There are many other organizations investigating and providing information on the unexplained, all doing the best they can with the resources available to them. If you're seeking more information, you might start with the organizations below.

ARCTURUS BOOK SERVICE
1443 S.E. Port St. Lucie Blvd.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34952

LOUISIANA MOUNDS SOCIETY
3330 Eastwood Drive
Shreveport, LA 71105

PROJECT STIMGA/STIGMATA
P.O. Box 1094
Paris, TX 75461

CENTER FOR UFO STUDIES
2457 West Peterson Ave.
Chicago, IL 60659

MICHIGAN MUFON
73 Borman
Flushing, MI 48433

STRANGE & UNUSUAL PHENOMENA RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
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Keizer, OR 97307

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Tulsa, OK 74112

MIDOHIO RESEARCH ASSOCIATES
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Dublin, OH 43017

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Los Angeles, CA 90035

FATE MAGAZINE
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Marion, OH 43305-1940

MUTUAL UFO NETWORK
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Seguin, TX 78155

UFO NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE
R. 1 Box 220
Plumerville, AR 72127

GHOST RESEARCH SOCIETY
P.O. Box 205
Oak Lawn, IL 60454-0205

NEW YORK FORTEAN SOCIETY
P.O. Box 20024
New York, NY 10025-1510

HOUSTON UFO NETWORK
P.O. Box 942
Bellaire, TX 77402-0942

INTERNATIONAL FORTEAN ORGANIZATION (INFO)
P.O. Box 367
Arlington, VA 22216-0367

OFFICE OF PARANORMAL INVESTIGATIONS (OPI)
P.O. Box 875
Orinda, CA 94563-0875

ARCHIVES FOR UFO RESEARCH
P.O. Box 11027, S600 11
Norrköping, Sweden

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR CONTEMPORARY LEGEND RESEARCH
Mark Glazer, VP, ISCLR
Department of Behavioral Sciences
University of Texas—Panamerican
Edinberg, TX 78539

PARAPSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES INSTITUTE (PSI)
P.O. Box 30158
Lincoln, NE 68503-0158

ITALIAN CENTER FOR UFO STUDIES (CISU)
Corso Vittorio, Emmanuele 109
10121 Torino, Italy

UFO POTPOURRI
P.O. Box 58485
Houston, TX 77258-8485

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